reversing the growth trend in the per-capita income. Continued insurgencies and social turbulence are also responsible for draining the scant resources of the State and the State has not been able to achieve the desired results from the Plan schemes over the years.

Job opportunities in Rajasthan

2437. SHRI R.K. ANAND :
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to open new avenues like launching of new industries to create job opportunities for educated, uneducated, skilled and unskilled people of Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details of such proposal;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) The status of Government's agenda for providing employment opportunities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) to (d) Developing industries in districts/regions of a State and creating investment climate and requisite infrastructure for attracting enterpreneurs to invest in industries are primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Government. The Central Government acts as a facilitator, particularly for industrialization of backward areas of the country and with this objective in mind, the Central Government is implementing Centrally Sponsored Schemes for setting up growth centers for the industrial development of remote and backward areas of the States, including Rajasthan. In addition to this, the Central Government provides assistance to the states for infrastructure development for exports and allied activities. Five Growth Centres and one Export Promotion Industrial Park have been approved by the Government of India in the State of Rajasthan.

The Tenth Five Year Plan has given due importance to the generation of employment opportunities. Assuming 8 per cent annual growth rate of (GDP); and no change in the present sectoral employment elasticities, it is estimated that employment opportunities would increase by about

29.67 million person years during the Tenth Plan period. With suitable programmes and policy changes, the same 8 per cent growth rate can generate an additional 19.32 million person years of employment opportunities during the Tenth Plan period.

Schemes for Lakshadweep and Port Blair

†2438. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the pitiable condition of the people living nearby sea regions of Lakshadweep and Port Blair;

(b) if so, the details of the survey conducted by Government in this regard; and

(c) the schemes formulated and implemented by Government to raise the standard of living of people of the said area and to increase employment opportunities for them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) to (c) The condition of the people living in nearby sea region of Lakshadweep and Andaman & Nicobar Islands (including Port Blair) in general compares favourably to the condition of the people in the rest of the country. For example, the per capita income of Andaman & Nicobar Islands in 1998-99 was 142.05% of the average All-India per capita income. Accordingly, no specific survey has been carried out in this regard. Major schemes formulated to raise the standard of living and to incrase employment opportunities, including for those who live in such areas, include Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana (PMGY), Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), Swarnjayanti Gram Sarozgar Yojana (SGSY), Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY), etc. which aim at generating employment opportunities and raising levels of human development at the village level, in addition to welfare schemes like National Social Assistance Programme, Annapurna and Nutrition Programme for Adolescent Girls.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.